

SUMMER 2011

in the Field

THE FIELD MUSEUM MEMBER'S MAGAZINE



the Field

SUMMER 2011

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EDITOR

Emily J. Waldren, *The Field Museum*

PHOTO CONTENT SPECIALIST

Nina Cummings, *The Field Museum*

DESIGN

Georgia Bockos, *Bockos Design, Inc.*

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1400 South Lake Shore Drive

Chicago, IL 60605-2496

ON THE COVER

Discover the majesty and mystery of the whale in *Whales: Giants of the Deep*, opening May 20.

—DR. INGRID VINSER, ORCA RESEARCH TRUST

The Field
Museum

1400 South Lake Shore Drive

Chicago, IL 60605-2496

312.922.9410

fieldmuseum.org

The Field Museum salutes the people of Chicago for their long-standing support of the Museum through the Chicago Park District. Programming is partially supported by a CityArts Program 4 Grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

dear member

It's amazing to think that summer is just around the corner. Whether you're from out of town and planning a Chicago visit or looking forward to being the "tour guide" while friends and family are in town, The Field Museum is the place to be this summer.

Whales: Giants of the Deep is splashing into the Museum on May 20, and is an exhibition with something for everyone in the family to enjoy. Hear the incredible songs of whales from around the world, discover how whales evolved from small land mammals into the giant sea creatures they are today, and see two sperm whale skeletons—specimens so large, we needed a crane to move them into the Museum! (See photo, page 11.) Learn more about this exciting exhibition on page 4.

If you are hosting family and friends this summer, be sure to read our article on page 6, highlighting a half-day visit at The Field. We know the first time here can be overwhelming, so make sure your visitors explore some of the best we have to offer before they head out for baseball and deep-dish pizza.

With spring and summer, comes the Museum's **60th Annual Members' Nights** (May 26 and 27, 5–10pm). A favorite for all members, these nights give you the opportunity to not only visit the Museum after hours, but also to tour our amazing collection areas, speak with our scientists one-on-one, and learn about the exciting exhibitions we have planned for next year! Don't miss your chance to go behind the scenes. RSVP to Members' Night by calling 312.665.7700, or by visiting our website at fieldmuseum.org/support/members.



DIANE ALEXANDER WHITE

As always, thank you for your continued support.

MICHELLE CLAYTON
Director of Membership

Where would we be without the horse?

By Rebecca Franek, Writer

HORSES DO MORE THAN take people on trail rides. In *The Horse*, visitors will discover that the horse evolved from something no bigger than a dog, into the large animals humans have used for farming, transportation, and even warfare. The exhibition explores the complex relationship between man and horse and ponders the question, "Where would we be without the horse?"

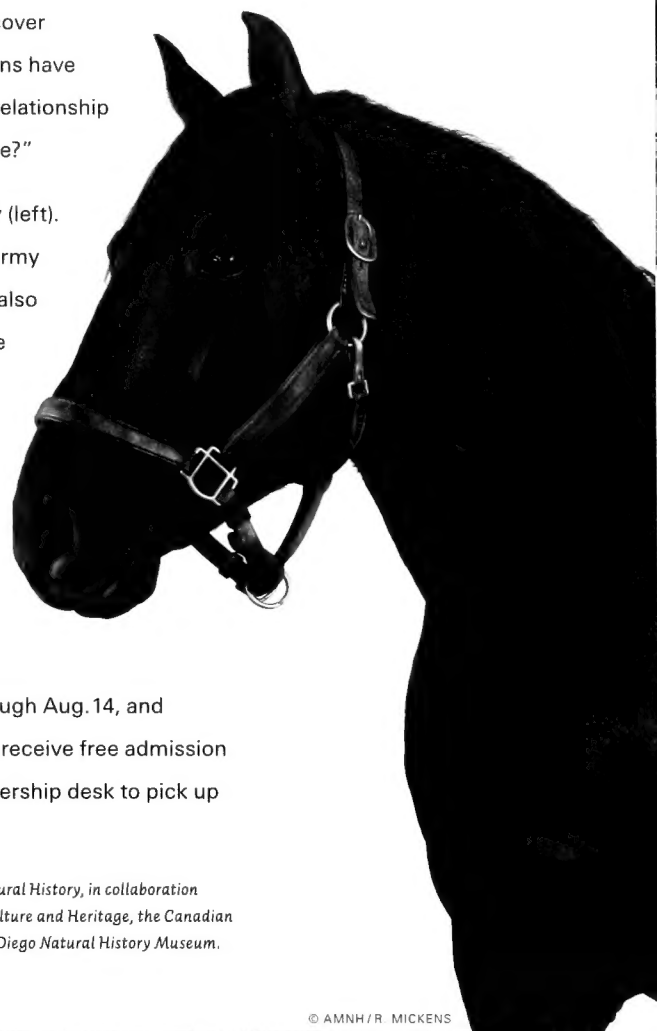
Discover an entire suit of armor worn by horses in 16th century Germany (left). In wars, horses wore armor so cavalrymen could charge into battle. An army with a cavalry had a tremendous advantage over one without. *The Horse* also features a horse-drawn fire engine from the early 20th century—once fire engines were too heavy to be pulled by man, the trusty horse stepped in to carry the load. People have created dozens of horse breeds to make strong, fast, and very unique creatures. Some horses, like the

Shetland pony, weigh around 170 pounds while others, like the draft horse, can weigh over 2,000 pounds.

Explore the relationship with humans and horses in *The Horse*, on display through Aug. 14, and don't forget, as Museum members you receive free admission to the exhibition. Check in at the Membership desk to pick up your tickets. **ITF**

The Horse is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, in collaboration with The Field Museum, the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau-Ottawa, and the San Diego Natural History Museum.

Major Sponsor: Harris Bank



© AMNH/R. MICKENS



© AMNH/D. FINNIN



© AMNH/D. FINNIN

Riders of the Pony Express made transfers in less than two minutes. To speed the process up, a mochila (above) with special pouches for mail, was laid over the saddle. At the stations, the mochila was removed and put on the saddle of a waiting horse.

Just for Kids

FINDING HORSES IN THE FIELD MUSEUM

Horses have been at The Field Museum long before *The Horse* arrived. They can be found in almost every exhibit. Cut this page out and take it with you the next time you and your family visit, and uncover the variety of horses in The Field Museum!

See if you can find:

- A horse skeleton in *Evolving Planet*
 - Two horsewomen from the Honan Province in China
 - A seahorse in *What Is An Animal?*
 - A pair of Burchell's Zebras in *Mammals of Africa*
 - < Are Zebras a type of horse? Well, Zebras and horses both belong to the family Equidae and the genus Equus. They are related closely enough to breed, but zebras and horses are different species
 - Miniature horse figurines in the *North American Indians*
- Hint: Look for the "Plains Indian" section



GNB6225C/JOHN WEINSTEIN

Whales: Giants of the Deep

May 20 – January 16, 2012

By Nancy O'Shea, Public Relations Director

FOR CENTURIES, WHALES HAVE CAPTURED OUR IMAGINATIONS and ignited our emotions. We have revered them, made them the subject of myth, hunted them to the brink of extinction, and passionately protected them.

On May 20, The Field Museum will open *Whales: Giants of the Deep*, which explores these fascinating creatures by showcasing fully articulated whale skeletons, many hands-on activities, dramatic videos, and the latest findings in whale biology and evolution.

The exhibition, organized by New Zealand's national museum, Te Papa, also highlights how whales have influenced the culture of the indigenous peoples of the South Pacific. On display will be a traditional *pātaka taonga* (storehouse of treasures) carved with whale-like images and filled with stunning adornments and deadly weapons made of whale bone and teeth from places such as New Zealand and Fiji.

Curious as to how we got these HUGE skeletons inside the Museum? It involved heavy crates, a crane, and a lot of teamwork. See page 11 for photo.



© MUSEUM OF NEW ZEALAND TE PAPA TONGAREWA, 2008

Above: Skeletons of whale ancestors show visitors how the whale evolved from land mammals to the fully aquatic whales we see today. Opposite, clockwise from left: The sperm whale is the largest living toothed animal; A koropepe pendant carved from whale bone; Children can climb through the replica of a blue whale heart.



© BRANDON COLE



© MUSEUM OF NEW ZEALAND
TE PAPA TONGAREWA, 2007



© MUSEUM OF NEW ZEALAND TE PAPA TONGAREWA, 2008



The complex relationship between whales and the native peoples of the South Pacific is a theme that runs throughout the exhibition. Through videos and text panels, Museum visitors will meet people whose lives have been inextricably linked with whales, from legendary whale riders to scientists and former whaling families.

But make no mistake—whales are the stars of the show!

Two fully articulated sperm whale skeletons (male and female) are nothing less than awe inspiring, measuring more than 58 and 32 feet in length, respectively. A model of the heart of a blue whale is so large—the size of a Volkswagen “Beetle”—children can climb through it.

Mind-boggling facts are sprinkled throughout *Whales*. Did you know that blue whales are the same size as a 737 airplane? A whale’s tongue can weigh more than an elephant? And gray whales migrate 12,000 miles each year—the same as three round trips from Chicago to Los Angeles?

Models of ancient, extinct animals show how land dwelling mammals evolved over millions of years to become the whales and dolphins we know today. Sounds of whales can be heard and compared, and visitors will discover how these giants communicate with “songs” and use echolocation to navigate and hunt.

Whales: Giants of the Deep also explains the history of the whaling industry, examines different species of whales, details how they swim, feed, and mate, and why they sometimes strand themselves on land. Visitors will learn about today’s conservation efforts and how factors such as pollution and climate change impact whales and their habitats.

The exhibition runs through January 16, 2012 and is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to become more familiar with some of the most mysterious and fascinating animals on earth. Come see *Whales: Giants of the Deep* and discover why these astonishing creatures continue to intrigue and inspire. **ITF**

This exhibition was developed and presented by the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, under the title of Whales: Tohorā, with the assistance of the New Zealand Government.

Proud Major Sponsor: Wells Fargo



The Field Museum: Your Destination for Summer Fun!

By Rita Bellouze, Public Relations Coordinator

YOU'VE BEEN THERE BEFORE: Guests are visiting from out of town and you want to entertain them for an afternoon. Once you walk into the Museum though, your mind goes blank as to what to show your visitors. There's so much to do, and so little time! In addition to the temporary exhibitions *The Horse* and *Whales: Giants of the Deep*, your guests are sure to enjoy some of our illuminating permanent exhibitions. We recommend the following for a half-day of fun!



GREG NEISE © THE FIELD MUSEUM

Evolving Planet

No visit to The Field is complete without seeing *Evolving Planet*, a journey through four billion years of life on Earth. From the three-horned *Triceratops* to the 72-foot-long *Apatosaurus*—the largest animal to ever walk the Earth—the dinosaur hall will impress the paleontology enthusiast in all of us.

Lions of Tsavo

The *Lions of Tsavo* are two of the most vicious man-eaters of all time and were the subject of the popular film *The Ghost and the Darkness* in 1996. See the actual lions who, for nine months in 1898, killed and ate about 35 railway workers in Tsavo, Kenya. The ferocious beasts—which came to be known as “devils in lions’ shape”—were finally shot and killed by Col. John H. Patterson, chief engineer on the Tsavo railroad.



294352C/JOHN WEINSTEIN

Grainger Hall of Gems

Guests will be awe-struck by *Grainger Hall of Gems* with the dazzling displays of 600 gemstones and gems and 150 pieces of magnificent jewelry. Arranged according to type, displays feature gemstones still embedded in ancient rock, along with polished gems, and finally finished jewelry. Will your favorite piece be the eye-popping 5,890-carat Chalmers topaz or the dramatic 25-carat diamond brooch?



GREG NEISE © THE FIELD MUSEUM

Inside Ancient Egypt

Inside Ancient Egypt will more than satisfy your curiosity about this fascinating civilization. Begin in the mastaba tomb of Unis-Ankh, son of the Old Kingdom pharaoh Unis. Immerse yourself in dioramas that provide a dramatic look at the elaborate process of mummification and the journey to the underworld, and offer insights into the Egyptians’ religious practices and beliefs. And then there are the mummies.

Real ones. Need we say more? **ITF**

**BE SURE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR EXTENDED HOURS DURING THE SUMMER.
VISIT [FIELDMUSEUM.ORG](http://fieldmuseum.org) FOR DATES AND TIMES.**

SUMMER 2011 May > August

program Calendar

The Field
Museum



COURTESY OF THE FIELD MUSEUM



WWW.MORQUEFILE.COM

Program Tickets ø Info 312.665.7400
General Museum Info 312.922.9410



COURTESY OF THE FIELD MUSEUM

Splash into summer
with **sensational**

activities
for the whole family to enjoy!

No refunds are permitted for any program. Fees for programs that are cancelled by The Field Museum will be refunded in full.

may

Secrets of Collections* family program

Every day through May 20, 10am–2pm > People from all over the world collect objects that have meaning to them and this includes our very own museum visitors! Stop by the Crown Family PlayLab to see a display of objects collected by PlayLab families.

The Comer Symposium:

The Future of Sustainable Design* adult lecture
with *Adrian Smith, Gordon Gill, and Dr. Mitchell Joachim*

5.19, 7:30pm > Join us for a lecture featuring leaders in the field of sustainable design.

Adrian Smith and Gordon Gill are renowned architects and partners of *Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture* in Chicago. Their innovative designs include Masdar Headquarters, the Willis Tower Greening Project and Hotel, and the Chicago Central Area DeCarbonization Plan, works that sustain the environment and inspire us to improve our world.

Dr. Mitchell Joachim is a leader in ecological design and urbanism. His futuristic designs include the Soft Car (cars made of plastic) and Fab Tree Hab (a living tree house). Dr. Joachim's vision includes meeting human need through sustainable, organic designs. Be inspired by this evening's exploration of the future of sustainable design.

Pre-registration encouraged; please call 312.665.7400 or visit fieldmuseum.org

The Comer Symposium, 2008–2012. The Gary C. Comer Family, in fostering education, research, and public awareness of climate change, has funded the establishment of a five-year series of symposia at The Field Museum.

Artists and Authors* family program

5.21, 11am–2pm > We are going on a whale watch and you're invited! Help create a 30-foot 3D whale craft and walk in a sea-themed parade through the main hall of The Field Museum. You'll have a whale of a time!

Artists and Authors* family program

6.18, 11am–2pm > Come and throw clay in the Crown Family PlayLab's Art Studio! A local potter will teach you how to create your very own pottery treasures. You can build a coil, roll a flute, or come in with your own clay!



summer camps

Dino Camp 2011 > ages 3–5

I spy a dinosaur, do you? This early childhood camp is designed expressly for young explorers ages 3–5 and their caregivers. Join us for two days of dino discovery where we will learn how to spot a dinosaur, see SUE's skull, and dig for dinosaur bones!

Please choose from one of the following eight sessions:

**May 31 & June 2 • June 1 & 3 • June 7 & 9 • June 8 & 10
June 14 & 16 • June 21 & 23 • June 28 & 30 • June 29 & July 1**
9am–noon each day

\$75 general, \$65 member
(one adult included in the price per camper)

Parents, this is a *peanut-free program*. If you have special needs you would like us to be aware of prior to camp, please call 312.665.7551.

Summer World's Tour > ages 5–10

**Summer Camp on Chicago's Museum Campus
Adler Planetarium – The Field Museum – Shedd Aquarium**

Summer Worlds Tour offers a week of adventures in Chicago's premier museums for children ages 5 to 10 years old. Campers will explore exciting new worlds at the Adler Planetarium, discover majestic mammals of land and sea at The Field Museum and become explorers of the aquatic realm at Shedd Aquarium. Activities include investigating exhibits, creating original art projects, playing learning games, and having lunch along the shore of Lake Michigan.

Please choose from one of the following four sessions:

July 11–15 • July 18–22 • July 25–29 • August 1–5
9am–3pm each day

\$285, \$255 members

Please visit www.adlerplanetarium.org/investigate/participate/camps to complete your registration.

attn: teens!

Digital Planet: Antarctica teen program

6.27-7.1, 8:30am-3:30pm > In this week-long digital video camp, high school-aged youth will explore the current scientific research of Field Museum scientists using mobile media! Equipped with mobile devices, participants will play the role of "mobile journalist" in order to uncover the real story of science. In one week, youth participants will produce unique 45-90 second video spots on an aspect of the Expedition that they select. The best videos will be selected to rotate through a video feed on a public floor of the Museum!

Please visit fieldmuseum.org/happening/digital-planet-antarctica for more information.

This program is developed in partnership with the New Learning Institute of the Pearson Foundation.

july

Artists and Authors* family program with sculptor & illustrator Sara Richard

7.16, 11am-2pm > Come meet Sara Richard in the Crown Family PlayLab. Sara will lead families through the creative process of paleo-illustration by creating drawings, paintings, and sculptures of dinosaurs.

Secrets of Collections* family program

Every day in August, 10am-2pm > People from all over the world collect objects that have meaning to them and this includes our very own museum visitors! Stop by the Crown Family PlayLab to see a display of objects collected by PlayLab families.

Artists and Authors* family program

8.20, 11am-2pm > Come and learn some new twists on the ancient art of origami. Learn how to fold cranes, frogs, insects, flowers, and more.

in the Crown Family PlayLab

*FREE with Museum Admission

fieldmuseum.org
event details are available online!



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE FIELD MUSEUM

unique opportunities for parents

Parent Advisory Council

Discuss the Museum's early childhood initiatives as a participant of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC)! Through the PAC, parents will have a rare opportunity to provide feedback to the Museum on programs geared toward families with children ages 2-6.

If you are interested in serving as an ambassador to your school and neighborhood community for The Field Museum's Crown Family PlayLab as well as becoming part of a network of parents concerned with the learning moments of children ages 2-6, email playlab@fieldmuseum.org to request additional details and an application.



WWW.MORGFILM.COM

Parents as Educators Workshops

Both workshops are FREE (no admission required) and held in the Crown Family PlayLab.

Power of Play

5.14, 10am or 1pm > While all work and no play makes adults feel pretty dull, parents are often surprised to learn that play is considered the "work" of young children. This workshop will explore how play is not only fun for children, but also serves as a critical tool in fostering both learning and developmentally appropriate play for their children.

Learning through the Museum

6.4 and 6.11, 10am-12:30pm > What is learning and how do children learn? This two-part workshop will consider this fascinating concept through both discussion and museum exploration. In the first hour, parents examine what and how children learn at different ages and stages in their development. In the second half, parents spend time exploring The Field Museum's exhibitions to understand how best to use museums as resources with their children.

Sign up for the Crown Family PlayLab E-News!

This e-newsletter is an early science literacy resource geared towards families with young children ages two through six. Each quarterly issue will feature theme-based, downloadable activities and articles designed to encourage outdoor exploration, creative play, and self-expression. Email us at playlab@fieldmuseum.org to start receiving emails.



Crown Family
PlayLab

explore exciting our exhibitions



© AMNH LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Horse

THROUGH AUGUST 14

Explore the profound relationship between horses and humans and discover how almost every facet of human existence has been influenced by our union with the horse, only at The Field Museum.

The Horse is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York, in collaboration with The Field Museum, Chicago; Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture & Heritage; Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau-Ottawa; and San Diego Natural History Museum.

Major Sponsor: Harris Bank

Travelogues and Technologies— from Small Sketches to the Biggest Book

THROUGH JANUARY 1, 2012

Discover how technological advancements have changed how we document explorations of the world, as you follow Field Museum expeditions from the 1890s to present day. Uncover extraordinary stories of travel, scientific discovery, and rare encounters, only at The Field Museum.

Travelogues and Technologies— from Small Sketches to the Biggest Book is organized by The Field Museum.

© ALEX WILD 2010



The Romance of the Ants ON-GOING

Did you know that ants are able to lift 20 times their own body weight? Or that ants can make nests as deep as 15–25 feet in the soil? Find your inner scientist as you explore the exhibition, *The Romance of Ants*, and discover things you never thought you'd be interested in. Get a rare look at the life of Field Museum scientist Dr. Corrie Moreau, and learn

how her childhood love for insects spurred a career dedicated to researching ants. Through breathtaking photography, a colony of live ants, as well as comic book-style illustrations of her story, journey with Dr. Moreau and discover fascinating facts about ants and their multiple roles within the ecosystem. Straight from The Field.

The Romance of Ants is organized by The Field Museum and is the inaugural exhibition of Straight from The Field, an ongoing series of innovative exhibitions highlighting the work of Field Museum scientists and researchers.

The Romance of
ANTS

T. rex Relatives Preferred Vegetarian Fare

By Jon Van, Writer

TYRANNOSAURUS REX MAY HAVE BEEN A FLESH-EATING TERROR BUT MANY OF HIS CLOSEST RELATIVES WERE MORE CONTENT WITH VEGETARIAN FARE, A NEW ANALYSIS BY FIELD MUSEUM SCIENTISTS HAS FOUND.

Scientists Lindsay Zanno, PhD, and Peter Makovicky, PhD, used statistical analyses to determine the diet of 90 species of theropod dinosaurs. Their results challenge the conventional view that nearly all theropods hunted prey, especially those closest to the ancestors of birds. Rather, Zanno and Makovicky show that among the most bird-like dinosaurs—known as coelurosauians (So-lure-o-SUR-ee-yan)—

plant eating was a common way of life.

"Most theropods are clearly adapted to a predatory lifestyle, but somewhere on the line to birds, predatory dinosaurs went soft," Zanno says.

Deducing the diet of extinct animals isn't always straightforward. In all but the rarest cases, paleontologists have nothing to study but fossilized bones and teeth.

Sometimes figuring out what a dinosaur ate is fairly obvious. No one doubts the bone-crunching teeth and jaws of *Tyrannosaurus rex* were the tools of a megapredator. But, many coelurosauian dinosaurs have more ambiguous adaptations such as peg-like teeth at the front of the mouth or no teeth at all, so determining their diet has been a challenge.

Fortunately a small percentage of these species have clear-cut evidence of diet with their skeletal remains. Fossilized dinosaur dung, stomach contents, tooth marks, and the presence of stones within the stomach (a gastric mill for digesting vegetation) all provide a direct window on diet. After collecting dietary data for 90 coelurosauian species, Zanno and Makovicky used statistical analyses to test whether certain skeletal traits (such as the loss of teeth or a long neck) could be found to correlate with direct evidence of plant eating among coelurosauian dinosaurs.

They found almost two dozen anatomical features statistically linked to direct evidence of herbivory. "Once we linked certain adaptations with direct evidence of diet, we looked to see which other theropod species had the same traits," Zanno said, "then we could say who was likely a plant eater and who was not."

Applying their data on diet, the researchers found that 44 theropod species were eating plants and that the ancestor to most feathered dinosaurs and modern birds had probably already lost its appetite for flesh alone. Because plant eating was found to be so widespread in Coelurosauria, the hypercarnivorous habits of *T. rex* and other meat eating coelurosauians like *Velociraptor* should be viewed "more as the exception than the rule," Zanno says. "This new research firmly supports what we've have been speculating about for some time," she says.

Using statistical analysis to find correlations between physical traits and diet could offer a new window as to how evolution works and these techniques could be used to provide new insight into the common practice of becoming an herbivore throughout vertebrate history. **ITF**

The study was funded in part by the National Science Foundation. Lead author Lindsay Zanno's research was supported by a John Caldwell-Meeker Fellowship and by a Bucksbaum Fellowship for young scientists.

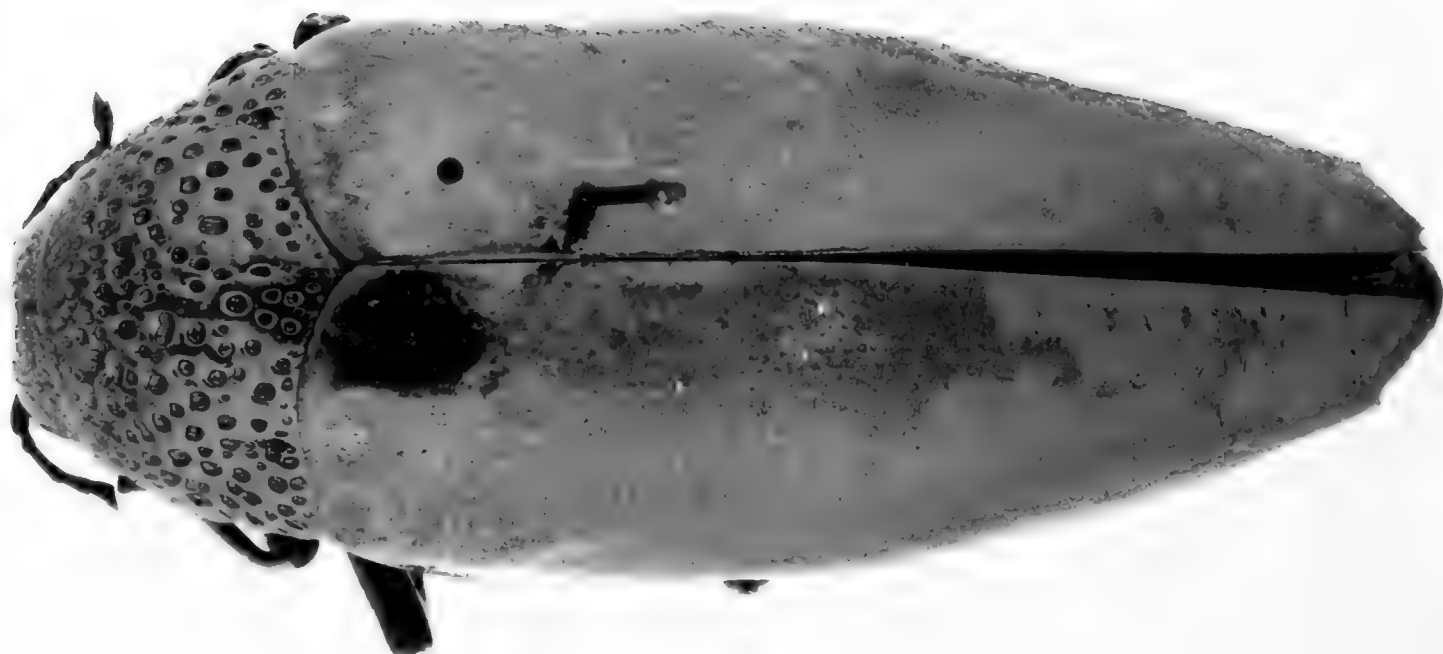


COURTESY DAVID CLARK

Lindsay Zanno, PhD contributed to this article.



DENIS FINNIN © AMNH



A Sneak Peek:

Abbott Hall of Conservation Restoring Earth



*By documenting nature's
awesome diversity, Field Museum
collections inform plans
for protection.*

By Anna Huntley, Exhibition Project Manager

ECO-CHIC. SUSTAINABLE. RENEWABLE. GREEN.

Conservation may seem like a well-known concept in today's society... but is it? Ask five people on the street and you'll get five different definitions of what conservation means to them, and to their communities. So what does conservation mean to you?

In a new permanent exhibition opening this fall The Field Museum will show visitors how conservation is more than twisty-light bulbs, short showers, and blue bins. Conservation often involves discovery and adventure; it's seeing our world in a new way and understanding that the planet's needs are tightly connected to our own.

On November 4 the Abbott Hall of Conservation *Restoring Earth*, will open to the public. Here is a sneak peak at some of the amazing experiences and stories that await you...

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WEINSTEIN
ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN WEINSTEIN

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

You're walking down a long hallway in The Field Museum's Collection Resource Center. You expect to see rows and rows of skeletons, taxidermy, and specimens in jars. There is a lot to see, but wait, what are those huge tanks? Filled with liquid nitrogen, the tanks maintain collections of thousands of plant and animal tissues from all over the world at -180 degrees Celsius. At this temperature the tissues are preserved for use by scientists hundreds of years into the future. Scientists hurry back and forth, busy and focused. A collections assistant organizes samples from a recent research trip on a long table for cataloguing into the collection; across the room, another researcher studies whole specimens collected over 100 years ago.

This is conservation. The Field Museum's collection of over 24 million specimens documents what we see in the field. We also use these unique collections to track changes in species over time and document evolution in populations around the globe. Collections represent the history of our planet, but they also will help us understand what the future brings.



294536_06AD/JOHN WEINSTEIN

Above: The Field Museum collects birds that collide with Chicago buildings. Top, left: Ornithologists scan the skies for birds during a rapid inventory in Peru. Top, right: Children work to remove Garlic Mustard, an invasive species in the Chicago region.

ALVARO DEL CAMPO



RAPID INVENTORIES

You're dangling from a helicopter over a lush tropical forest, ready to be lowered in to one of the most diverse and unexplored parts of the world. Once on the ground, you work around the clock with scientists and local experts to count and record the plants, birds, frogs, fish, and mammals that surround you. You might be the first person to see a rare bird in this location, and you will almost certainly discover something never before seen by other scientists.

This is conservation. Each year Field Museum scientists travel to threatened locations and conduct "rapid inventories" both to document the biodiversity of a region and to visit nearby villages to understand residents' connections to their forests. The result of this intensive fieldwork is a conservation roadmap that is shared with local governments and non-profits that will work to protect these vast wilderness expanses into the future.

GN90578_141D/JOHN WEINSTEIN



RESTORING NATURE

You are walking with your children along a forest preserve path on a lovely spring morning. As you watch the butterflies and bees visiting the dazzling flowers you hear laughter ahead. This friendly group of volunteer stewards explains that they are removing a weedy plant called Garlic Mustard that is invading the woodland and choking out the flowers. Your children insist on helping them to fill their bags and are careful to pull out only the weeds and not the flowers. You all feel wonderful when the task is complete and you drink lemonade in the sunshine to celebrate.

This is conservation. Our Chicago region still holds rich remnants of our natural heritage in the prairies, woodlands, and wetlands of our forest preserves and parks. These natural treasures need our help to keep them healthy. This work is done by professional ecologists as well as by thousands of adult and youth volunteers. As the land is restored the people feel restored in the process.

All of these are examples of conservation, though maybe ones you've never thought of before. At The Field Museum we turn science into action for lasting conservation, and we invite you to join the adventure! Come and see *Restoring Earth* this fall and expand your own definition of conservation. **ITF**

Abbott Hall of Conservation Restoring Earth is made possible through the generosity of Abbott.

Discover Green Products in the New Exhibition

Design for a Living World

By Jennifer Burklow, Writer

HIGH DESIGN COMES TO THE FIELD MUSEUM bearing a message of sustainability in *Design for a Living World* (May 12–Nov. 13), the inaugural exhibition in The Field Museum's new Gary C. Comer Family Gallery. Created by The Nature Conservancy, *Design for a Living World* showcases the work of 10 designers from around the globe.



The maple used for Maya Lin's bench came from land in Maine managed by The Nature Conservancy and certified by the Forest Stewardship Council.

Works by fashion designers Isaac Mizrahi and kate spade new york will be on display, as well as handsome and useful objects by sculptor Maya Lin (who designed the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C.), designer Yves Béhar, and artist Christien Meindertsma. While admiring the finished products, visitors can explore the artists' process through design drawings, photos, samples of raw materials, and video interviews.

"*Design for a Living World* asks us not just how sustainably sourced materials can boost the 'green-ness' of our everyday objects—such as our clothing and furniture—

but also how those products can be designed with style, humor, and an aesthetic response to the materials' origins," says Janet Hong, project manager for The Field Museum. The artists used all kinds of materials from different locations around the world, as part of the Conservancy's quest to find ways to harvest materials from protected or semi-protected areas.

Mizrahi's contribution is a dress and shoes made from the skin of salmon caught and harvested in Alaska. The salmon skin, which would ordinarily be thrown away, was turned into leather and then incorporated into a chic dress.

Another exhibition highlight is a clever cocoa grater packaged with a patty of pressed organic cocoa grown by an indigenous women's group in Costa Rica. The grater allows hot chocolate lovers to grate just enough cocoa for one mug—just like Costa Ricans do.

The exhibition also features pieces by Christien Meindertsma, a Dutch artist who harvested wool from sheep living on a conservation-committed Idaho ranch. Meindertsma kept track of each sheep's wool—naming each animal and keeping its wool separate. She made the wool into felted wool yarn and, using giant knitting needles, made a rug tile from each sheep's wool. The rug tiles then fit together, each with a different pattern, complementing each other.

DAN WHIPPS

MACKENZIE STROH

Fashion designer Isaac Mizrahi used leather made from Alaskan salmon to create a dress, jacket, and shoes.



Above: Christien Meindertsma knits with wool from a sustainable sheep ranch in Idaho. Above, right: A kate spade new york handbag uses sustainably harvested hardwood from Bolivia.



Field Museum Members are in for an additional treat—Meindertsma is creating a new piece made from Illinois prairie plants for the Field's exhibition. Last fall, Meindertsma visited The Nature Conservancy's Nachusa Grasslands Preserve in Franklin Grove, 100 miles west of Chicago. The artwork she made from its plants will be unveiled at the exhibition's opening.



Field Museum Memberships

Time to renew your membership?

Call 312.665.7700 • Mon.–Fri., 8:30am–4:30pm

Visit fieldmuseum.org/membership

Field memberships also make great gifts!

Getting to The Field Museum

Many buses and rail lines provide access to The Field Museum. For more information, call 888.YOURCTA or visit www.transitchicago.com. Visit www.rtachicago.com for regional transit information.

What do you think about In The Field?

For questions about the magazine, call 312.665.7107, email ewaldren@fieldmuseum.org or write Emily Waldren, Editor. For general membership inquiries, including address changes, call 866.312.2781.

Design for a Living World was developed by The Nature Conservancy.
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PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

always be discovering.

The Field Museum

museum campus neighbors

ADLER PLANETARIUM

Don't miss **Planet Explorers**, a modern-day space adventure for kids and families. This exhibition lets future space explorers enter a world where they can play and learn what it takes to be part of a mission to outer space. *Planet Explorers* is divided into three different play areas: *Exploring Earth*, *Exploring Space*, and *Exploring Planet X*. Visit www.adlerplanetarium.org for details.

SHEDD AQUARIUM

Shedd Aquarium recently debuted a new special exhibit, **Jellies!** This limited-time exhibit showcases more than 10 different species of pulsing, translucent sea jellies. Explore an underwater world of rarely seen animals that survive—and thrive—without bones, blood, or brains. For more information, visit www.sheddaquarium.org/jellies.



JOHN WEINSTEIN

*Field Associate officers
at their Gold opening event.*

Engaging a New Generation of Supporters

THE FIELD ASSOCIATES IS AN ANNUAL FUND donor level designed by and for young professionals who represent Chicago's next generation of civic leaders. Our members are 21 to 35 years old and share a common desire to learn about, support, and advance the Museum's mission.

Field Associates enjoy behind-the-scenes access to Museum scientists and collections that all Annual Fund donors experience, along with opportunities to network with peers and develop civic leadership skills.

Volunteers within the group develop a dynamic program calendar, featuring an annual scavenger hunt, after-hours exhibition viewings, and opportunities to interact with leading experts on topics as varied as chocolate, venomous fishes, and ancient Chinese rubbings.

For more information about The Field Associates, please visit fieldmuseum.org/fieldassociates or call 312.665.7137.

Whales Make a Splash in Museum Stores

Visit the *Whales: Giants of the Deep* Exhibition Store to discover how whales have inspired people around the world. You'll find games, toys, books, and more for kids as well as jewelry, gifts, and stunning hand-crafted objects, like this beautiful sculpture. Inuit artist Isaac Ohotaq from Cape Dorset in Canada has used serpentine and antler in this dynamic sculpture of two whales. As always, you can shop 24 hours a day at store.fieldmuseum.org.

Remember that all proceeds from the Stores directly support the Museum's public and scientific programs, and that all Field Museum members receive 10 percent off their purchases in the Museum Stores.



LINDSAY KREMENAK